SOURCES NEEDED

Onderdonk, Manuscript History of the Soc of Friends in Queens County, pp. 139, 153, 155

LS :536 to 579

GMNJ 3:21.

Husband: **JOHN ADAMS II**

Born:	>22 May 1627	Plymouth, Plymouth Colony
Married 1:	27 December 1654	Marshfield, Plymouth Colony[1]
Married 2:	1663	Vlissingen, Lange Eylandt, Nieuw Nederland
Died:	1703	Chester, Burlington County, New Jersey
Buried:		

Father:	JOHN ADAMS I
Mother:	ELLEN NEWTON

Wife 1: JANE "JOANE" JAMES

Born:	27 December 1634	Marshfield, Plymouth Colony
Died:	30 June 1662/63	Marshfield, Plymouth Colony

Father:	PHILIP JAMES (23 June 1599 – 10 August 1638)
Mother:	JANE DAVENPORT (1606 – 22 February 1689)

Issue:	Born:	Place:
1. MARY ADAMS	3 July 1656	*Marshfield, Plymouth Colony*
2. [daughter]	17 February 1658	Marshfield, Plymouth Colony
3. MARTHA ADAMS	6 March 1659	*Marshfield, Plymouth Colony*
4. REBECCA ADAMS	13 February 1662	*Marshfield, Plymouth Colony*

Wife 2: **ELIZABETH KENT**

Born:	4 December 1644	Newbury, Essex County, Massachusetts Colony
Died:		
Buried:		

Father:	STEPHEN KENT (1603 – 1670)
Mother:	MARGERY ANN NORRIS (c1621 – 1653)

Issue:	Born:	Place:
1) JOHN ADAMS	17 August 1664	Flushing, North Riding , Yorkshire, New York
2) ELIZABETH ADAMS	9 March 1666	Flushing, North Riding , Yorkshire, New York
3) SARAH ADAMS	28 April 1668	Flushing, North Riding , Yorkshire, New York
4) **JAMES ADAMS**	4 October 1671	Flushing, North Riding , Yorkshire, New York
5) SUSANNA ADAMS	6 November 1674	Flushing, North Riding , Yorkshire, New York
6) HANNAH ADAMS	16 February 1676	Flushing, North Riding , Yorkshire, New York
7) DEBORAH ADAMS	7 May 1678	Flushing, North Riding , Yorkshire, New York
8) JOHN ADAMS	10 September 1680	Flushing, North Riding , Yorkshire, New York

9) ABIGAIL ADAMS	2 January 1683	Flushing, Queens County, New York
10) THOMAS ADAMS	12 January 1685	Flushing, Queens County, New York
11) MERCY ADAMS	13 December 1686	Flushing, Queens County, New York
12) PHEBE ADAMS	9 February 1690	Flushing, Queens County, New York

MARSHFIELD, PLYMOUTH COLONY

JOHN does not appear on any of the 1643 lists of men between 16 and 60 who are eligible to bear arms which supports a year of birth after 1627. On 30 October 1654 JOHN ADAMS of Marshfield, yeoman, appears in the Plymouth Deed Books wherein he states that the grant is made with the consent of his *father-in-law*, KENELME WINSLOW, and MRS. ELLENOR WINSLOW, his wife. Again, we encounter an earlier definition of *in-law; MRS. ELLENOR WINSLOW* was his mother and KENELME his step-father. In Plymouth Colony he built a house on the land his father worked and moved to the coast of the bay north of Plymouth and Duxbury at Green Harbor. Their home was about a mile northwest of the village on an elevation at the edge of a forest known as Mount Skirgo. On 2 March 1641, the incorporation of the Township of Marshfield was done. JOHN is not listed as an original inhabitant but having become an inhabitant soon after incorporation.[2] This was most likely when he had their home built. JOHN was a witness in a case of manslaughter in January 1655. JOHN WALKER, 14-years-old, had been beaten with such ferocity by his master it led to his death. LATHAM'S wife SUSANNA was brought up on charges in June but, as no one would prosecute, they were dropped in October.[3] On 6 February 1655 the findings of the coroner's jury were entered in the Court record:

> *The following verdict was ordered to bee recorded: Marshfeild, the last of January, 1654. Wee, whose names are vnderwritten, being appointed a jury by MR JOHN ALDEN to view the dead body of JOHN WALKER, seruant to ROBERT LATHAM, of this towne, and to find the cause how hee came to his vntimely end, Wee, vpon due serch and exxamination, doe find that the body of JOHN WALKER was blackish and blew, and the skine broken in diuers places from the middle to the haire of his head, viz, all his backe with stripes giuen him by his master, ROBERT LATHAM, as ROBERT himselfe did testify; and alsoe wee found a bruise of his left arme, and one of his left hipp. and one great bruise of his brest; and these was the knuckles of one hand and one of his fingers frozen, and alsoe both his heeles frozen, and one of the heeles the flesh was much broken, and alsoe one of his little toes forzen and very much perished, and one of his great toes frozen, and alsoe the side of his foot frozen; and alsoe, vpon the reviewing the body wee found three gaules like holes in the hames, which wee formerly, the body being frozen, thought they hadbeen holes; and alsoe wee find that the said John was forced to carry a logg which was beyond his strength, which hee indeauoring to doe, the logg fell vpoin him, and hee, being downe, had a stripe or two, as JOSEPTH BEEDLE doth testify; and wee find that it was some dew daies before his death; and wee find, by the testimony of JOHN HOWLAND and JOHN ADAMS, that heard ROBERT LATHAM say that hee gaue JOHN WALKER som stripes that morning before his death; and alsoe wee find the flesh much broken of the knees of JOHN WALKER, and that hee did want sufficient food and cloathing and lodging, and that the said JOHN did constantly wett his bedd and his cloathes, lying in them, and soe suffered by it, his cloathes being frozen about him; and that the said JOHN was put forth in the extremity of cold, though thuse vnabled by lamenes and sorenes to pforme what was required; and therfore in respect of crewlty and hard vsuage hee died; and alsoe, vpon the cond review, the dea corpses did bleed att the nose.*
>
> *Att the said Court the said ROBERT LATHAM appeered, and was examined, and after examination comitted to the custidy of the cheife Marshall, and soe remaine vntill the next Generall Court, to bee holden att New Plymouth the sixt of March, 1654, vnlesse two sufficient men shall come in in the interim, and bee bound for his appeerance, body for body.*

LATHAM appeared for sentencing on 6 March 1654:

> *ROBERT LATHAM was indited for fellonious crewelty done vnto JOHN WALKER, his servant, aged about 14 yeares, by unreasonable correction, by witholding nessesary food ad clothing, and by exposing his said servant to extremitie of seasons, wherof the said JOHN WALKER languished and imeadiately dies, the 15 day of January, anno 1654. These found the said ROBERT LATHAM guilty of amnslaughter by chaune medley. Whervpon the prisoner desired the benifitt of law, viz, a psalue of mercye, which was graunted him; and sentance was further pronownsed against him, which was, that the said ROBERT LATHAM should bee burned in the hand, and his hauing noe lands, that all his goods are confiscate vnto his highness the Lord Protector; and that the said sentence should bee forthwith executed; which accordingly was performed the 4th of march, 1654.*

CAPTAIN JOHN ADAMS was a merchant sea captain and started the process to become a freeman in 1657 when he took the *Oath of Fidelity* in Marshfield and he was admitted as a freeman of Plymouth Colony on 1 June 1658. That status allowed him to be a member of the grand jury that same month and a member of the coroner's jury in July that was charged with investigating the death of JOHN PHILLIPES JUNIOR. He had come home and just sat on a stool by the chimney when *the hand of God*, manifested *by thunder and lightening*, ended his life.[4] JOHN ADAMS was appointed Constable of Marshfield on 5 June 1660.[5] While he held this post he claims to have been an active persecutor of any Quaker found in Marshfield. Little is known about his sailing experiences though it appears the lengths of his voyages were measured in weeks or months rather than years given the birth of four children over a 6-year span.

PERSONAL LIFE

JOHN ADAMS married JANE JAMES on 27 December 1654 in Marshfield; born in 1634, she was one of four children of PHILIP JAMES and JANE DAVENPORT of Hingham in Norfolk, England. The JAMES family sailed from Ipswich to Boston on the *Diligent* in 1638.[6] Their daughter MARY was baptized on 14 December 1656 at the Scituate Second Church rather than Marshfield, as it may have been more convenient.[7] They lived near Green Harbor in Marshfield Township. On 19 February 1658 they buried their 2-day old daughter, probably in the *Old Winslow Burying Ground* in Marshfield. Her birth and death are recorded on the first and second pages of the first volume of the Marshfield town records: *JOHN ADAMS had a daughter was Borne the .17. of february 1657.* and *JOHN ADAMS had a daughter was buried The 19. of ffebruary 1657*. The year is given in old style, what we recall as 1658. JANE was pregnant again within a few months and gave birth to MARTHA on 6 March 1659.[8] She was followed by a fourth daughter three years later. JANE died four months after giving birth to her fourth daughter in 1662. JOHN fell back on his trade and claims to have taken to the sea for two years after his wife died. That seems to be a bit of a stretch as he moved to Flushing on Long Island in 1663 and had married ELIZABETH KENT by the end of that year (assuming their first child was born at least 9 months after marrying). That schedule doesn't leave much time for sailing.

RELIGION – *MAYBE*.

The ADAMS family was quite similar to many of their neighbors who, as a whole, did not like change, were suspicious of strangers, displayed a level of ignorance and servility required to remain docile within the community and promoters of fanaticism without. JOHN ROBINSON, the Scrooby pastor who led the pilgrims to Leiden, Holland before they came to the New World, stated that the sexes were equal, yet referred to women as the *weaker vessel* that must be

subservient to men. Any person with a modicum of intelligence would question these contradictory statements and inquire as to the bases, but apparently no one did. If church dogma was challenged, the usual response was to brand that person a heretic and force them to walk, naked, men or women, through town to the border while being whipped the entire way. Unfortunately, the Marshfield church had SAMUEL ARNOLD installed as minister in 1657; he was one of the typical fear-based preachers of a pseudo-Christian belief system that allowed for only cult-like subjugation to his will.

The churches of Plymouth Colony were independent affairs with one self-governing congregation in each of the 17 townships. Second and third churches were created in response to population pressures. These became Congregationalist Churches that operated under the guidelines of the Cambridge Platform adopted in 1648. The Platform stated that while becoming a member of the congregation was voluntary or should not be forced on a person by the government (negating the possibility of a state-church as found in Anglicanism), once a member, attendance was mandatory. Secular laws were enacted that denied the right to work to any person who was not a member and laws forbidding any other churches from being built or any other ministers, lay clergy, or any person who was not a member of their particular congregation from holding meetings, services, or any gatherings in the township. As these were the actions of the supposedly independent and secular government, ignoring the fact that to hold a government position one had to be a local church member, the church itself remained within the strict reading of the Platform concerning voluntary association. The first church building was built around 1641 next to the Old Winslow Cemetery; this was soon followed by a sturdier structure. The First Congregational Church of Marshfield was the second church to be established in the colony in 1632. Plymouth was the first church and that congregation moved towards Unitarian in the 19th century, thus, Marshfield claims to be the oldest Trinitarian Congregational Church and pointedly states it is a *pilgrim* church, not a *puritan* church on its website.[9] Duxbury followed in 1634.

Marshfield's second church, c1660

PROPERTY

While turmoil engulfed JOHN'S life in the late 1650s and early 1660s, the colonial authorities granted land rights on 3 June 1662 to 32 people they considered *the first born of this government* and JOHN ADAMS is part of that group. The land was at Namassakett/ Nemasket and ultimately contained both upland and meadow.[10] This grant was realized through two purchases on the Nemasket River: the *26-Mens Purchase* and the *Purchade Purchase.* Some sources call this second purchase the *Major's Purchase* while others equate *Major's Purchase* with the *5-Men Purchase* of 13 July 1663. The Court issued the grant to make the purchase and the services of CAPTAIN THOMAS SOUTHWORTH, Assistant to the Governor since 1659, were engaged. On behalf of 26 men, hence the name of the purchase, SOUTHWORTH successfully negotiated for a tract between Tipacunucut Brook and the Nemasket (Namasket) River, making the purchase from the Sachem of the Massachusetts tribe, JOSIAH WAMPATUCK, for £70 in the first half of 1662. The services of MAJOR JOSIAH WINSLOW were also engaged and he purchased a tract *lying and being at Namassa and Keesett ponds* from the same Sachem by deed dated 9 July 1662. *Purchade Purchase*, as it was called and the *26-Mens Purchase* were confirmed by Plymouth court in

1663. *Purchade Purchase* took in the *Great Cedar Swamp* and the western part of the town of Pembroke (known as Hanson since 1832) while the *26-Mens Purchase* was located where the English village of Nemasket was established in 1661. One was the meadow land and the other the upland, but which was which is not known. These purchases were part of the town of Plymouth until they were incorporated as the separate Township of Middleborough in 1669. Each recipient of the *26-Mens Purchase* was assigned a lot *being near unto Namasket* that was *[r]ecorded in or about the year 1664*. The description of JOHN ADAMS's parcel states: *Lott is bounded with a Stooping maple tree in a little Swamp & a red Oak marked*.[11] Having moved to Flushing in 1663 JOHN decided to sell his share in both purchases. His *26-Mens Purchase* lot contained 80 acres plus 3.25 acres of meadow and was on the east side of Nemasket River, which is what allowed him a share in the *Purchade Purchase* north of the town of Middleboro. WHITTEMORE in his Adams Family book transcribes the deed incorrectly in stating that it says the JOHN had inherited these shares from his father; it does not. JOHN sold the share *which was granted unto mee the said JOHN ADAMS as being one of the children of the old comers of the said Jurisdictin according to grant of the court for the jurisdiction of Plymouth aforesaid bearing date the third day of June An° Dom: one thousand six hundred and sixty and two*. *CAPTAIN JOHN ADAMS of Flushing and his wife ELIZABETH* signed the deed on 10 December 1666 transferring ownership of his share in both purchases to NATHANIEL WARREN of Plymouth.[12] NATHANIEL was the son of Mayflower passenger RICHARD WARREN and received a share on his accord. He received lot number 5 which was occupied by his sons JABEZ and RICHARD, later becoming the focus of Warrentown. NATHANIEL had to pay 40 in damages to JOSIAH WINSLOW for taking trees from the latter's lot number 1 in January 1662. A 1690 list of proprietors shows the JOHN ADAMS lot *in possession of JABEZ WARREN – since of JOHN WADSWORTH*.[13]

FLUSHING, LONG ISLAND, PROVINCE OF NEW YORK

The Long Island towns of Gravesend, Hempstead, Flushing, Newtown, Jamaica and Oyster Bay had declared their independence and allegiance to CHARLES II which was agreed by PETRUS STUYVESANT, Director-General of New Netherland, to be in effect for one year beginning 1 January 1664. After the English takeover of the whole colony on 8 September 1664, the town of Flushing was in the North Riding of Yorkshire of colonial New York. In 1683 the shire system was replaced with the county system and those parts of the North Riding on Long Island became Queen's County.

At some point he heard the preaching of JOHN BURNYEAT and JOHN STUBBS, both New England Quakers, and he credits them for his decision to join the Religious Society of Friends. Until that time he had only called them *Quakers* for their habit of shaking and shrieking in pain brought on by their devil-worship services, or so his church elders had brainwashed him into believing though he, personally, had never witnessed such a thing. He came to understand that one could not find happiness and contentment in such a vile society. For him there was salvation at hand by deciding to leave that place and those people; there was no alternative. Chronologically, his affiliation with Friends, move to Flushing, and marriage to ELIZABETH had to come about before the 2 years of sailing he claims to have embarked upon after JANE died. The claim of 2 years is exaggerated – if he left 9 month before the birth of his first child with ELIZABETH, he left in December 1663. For their second child to be born in March 1666, he and ELIZABETH had to be together no later than June 1665, though this meeting did not require a return to Flushing. This period of time – December 1663 to June 1665 – could easily be the '2 years' he later claimed. Being in Flushing with ELIZABETH and their son JOHN must have been a nice change from the

previous few years but it would not last; JOHN died at 14 months old in October 1665. It would seem that all 12 of their children were born in Flushing; JOHN is documented as living there in 1688 and when he buys property in Burlington County until 1691 he is said to be *of Flushing*.

When JOHN reappears, he was no longer the narrow-minded bigot spouting a theology of conformity, uniformity, and hate that lived in Plymouth Colony. He traded his property in Marshfield for a 130-acre farm *at Bayside, Flushing* on Long Island and soon was living there. An interesting mention of JOHN in connection with the farm appears in the previously cited WALLER'S History of Flushing which I have supplemented with information from *The New England Historical and Genealogical Register* of 1879 cited earlier. The Minutes of Flushing Meeting reveal that JOHN made an appeal for money before the Meeting on 14 October 1684. The reason why he needed the money was he had made a purchase but had no money to pay. He had bought a slave to work his farm which the Meeting felt was worthy of their assistance, appointing JOHN BOWNE of Flushing and WILLIAM RICARDSON of West Chester to obtain the money necessary to pay for JOHN'S slave with the Meeting assuming responsibility for repaying the debt. WALLER describes JOHN as *impecunious* meaning that he wasn't just short of money this time but was always short of money.

JOHN ADAMS embraced the Society of Friends with zeal, becoming a prominent member in New York and New Jersey. In 1667 and 1688 he was authorized *to speak to fellow townsmen* of Flushing, some would say he was authorized to stick his nose where it did not belong, over what the Meeting felt was their duty. One time he was to ask why a certain person was missing Meetings which was harmless enough since a loss of contact could mean an injury or some other hardship. Another time he was to find out why a member chose to marry a woman, who was not a Friend, he wanted as his wife with the unspoken subtext being that a good Friend, a true Friend would have forsaken her and stay in communion with the Meeting.[14] Quakers were not all that forgiving or forward thinking however. Members were made to publicly confess their failings and ask for redemption; unacceptable behavior included attending a wedding where there was *dancing and fiddling*; a member was thrown out for *using vain compliments* and *playing cards*; another was condemned for having his non-Quaker daughter over for dinner. As late as 1774 members of Flushing Meeting were still importing and buying slaves.[15] According to the historian HENRY ONDERDONK, JOHN, presumably while at Flushing,

> *was charged with going over to the Ranters, a noisy faction of Friends. He retracts his error, and therein gives a long account of his opinions, and how God controlled his actions, &c, &c. It was a case of discipline, and of course not printed. I copied all of it that was not torn off years ago, because I thought it so interesting, …*

Going over to the Ranters seems a highly questionable accusation for this time, this place, and this person. Predating the founding of the Society of Friends by a decade or so, they were wrongly associated with Quakers as many alleged Ranters became Quakers in the 1650s. Some scholars are questioning whether they actually ever existed at all while others state the numbers of Ranters were exaggerated by conservatives to use as propaganda to garner support for their restrictive agenda. Never an organized religion or movement, it was nonetheless considered heretical and thus subject to execution. The following traits, beliefs, and practices were attributed to the group: pantheism, God is within every creature; Mosaic or religious are not binding and not valid – with a government-ordered religion, this posed many problems; sin was a product of the imagination; ownership of private property was wrong; and that self-denial of pleasure was to deny that which God has given you – leading to the more extreme accusations of practicing free-

love and participating in orgies. There is no evidence that this group, if they exited, ever manifested in any of the colonies. There is no doubt that the knowledge of their supposed existence and deviant ways did cross the Atlantic and provided a convenient charge to level against anyone when being fined for being a Quaker was not achieving the desired goal.

JOHN ADAMS appears more than once in the *Exemplification of Flushing Patent* issued by Governor GEORGE CLINTON bearing the date 24 February 1792 which reiterates several documents including the *Patent of Flushing* dated 19 February 1666 and granted by then Governor RICHARD NICOLL in which JOHN is named as one of the patentees and the *Renewal Charter of Flushing* dated 24 March1685 wherein he is listed among the Freeholders and Inhabitants of the town which was recorded by THOMAS DONGAN as Lieutenant-Governor.[16]

CHESTER, BURLINGTON COUNTY, PROVINCE OF WEST NEW JERSEY

A group of Flushing Quakers decided to move as a group to Burlington County in West New Jersey, it being well known that this was not just a haven for Quakers, but a colony run by Quakers. This they accomplished in 1690 – 1691; perhaps the newness of the 7-year-old Pennsylvania played into their decision to locate on the east side of the Delaware which had a couple of decades of existence to boast of, rather than the west. On 4 August 1691 JOHN ADAMS of Flushing, Queens County traded his 130-acre farm at Bayside in Flushing to JOHN RODMAN and his wife for 475 acres with a house on Rancocas Creek and 25 acres of meadow a property in Burlington County plus £190 cash.[17] Half of this tract, 237.5 acres plus 12.5 acres of meadow, was transferred to their son JAMES in on 27 January 1694. JOHN RODMAN was a physician and a Quaker preacher in Flushing since the late 1670s though he is still said to be of Rhode Island in 1686. He also captained his own sloop.[18] RODMAN, then of Rhode Island, bought 500 acres to be surveyed in the Second Tenth from WILLIAM BIDDLE of Mount Hope, West Jersey on 14 April 1686. BIDDLE left London where he was a shoemaker on Bishopsgate Street, after buying the 500 acres from THOMAS OLIVE and DANIEL WILLS on 4 April 1677. This was one half of the tract granted to OLIVE and WILLS by WILLIAM PENN on 23 January 1676. In 1724 their grandson JEDIDIAH ADAMS, son of JAMES and his wife ESTHER ALLEN, had 191 acres from this tract.[19]

He joined the Newton Monthly Meeting by Certificate dated 29 August 1691. (GMNJ 3:21). He was connected with the early activities of the Chester Meeting. It seems that meetings were held at his home in 1699, and probably much longer, which is described by THOMAS STORY as being about *7 miles further down the river* from Morrestown and later in that same year as being *15 miles by water* from Morrestown.[20] He signed as a witness to the marriage of HENRY ALLEN of Shrewsbury on 18 January 1703. JOHN ADAMS was referred to as an *acceptable Minister* in a letter from ELIZABETH ESTAUGH, dated 18 September1761, in reply to a request from JOHN SMITH, a Philadelphia merchant, who inquired about the names of Friends active in the settlement of *this part of the State*.[21] ELIZABETH was the clerk of the Women's Meeting of Newton and Haddonfield Friends for over fifty years.

He was commissioned a justice of the Peace for Burlington County on 12 May 1695, an office he held for several years, the last renewal being dated 12 May 1701. (LS :536 to 579). He was a member of the House of Representatives of West Jersey in 1697, when he signed an agreement of the Quaker members of that body in support WILLIAM III after some *Horrid Plott and Conspiracy* against the King was discovered.[22]

ELIZABETH appeared in the Burlington Court of Pleas on 9 August 1697 to provide testimony in the case of *JAMES ADAMS (her son) v THOMAS HOOTEN and ANTHONY FRYER*. She testified she heard her son, the plaintiff, ask FRYER, the defendant, who had marked his swine to which he answered that he helped THOMAS HOOTEN mark two of them. She also testified that she thought the two were two of the three that were the cause of the suit.[23]

JOHN signed his last Will and Testament on 16 March 1700 in which he appointed his wife ELIZABETH as sole-executrix and, in the extract referenced, names 9 children, 3 from his first marriage and 6 from his second, *viz*. MARY, MARTHA, and REBECCA his daughters by JANE and THOMAS, HANNAH, DEBORAH, ABIGAIL, *MARCY*, and *FEBY* from ELIZABETH. All of the missing children by ELIZABETH can be explained: both JOHNs had already died; JAMES received half of his Chester Township property already; and ELIZABETH, SARAH, and SUSANNA were already married. His wife ELIZABETH retained use of the 250 acres remaining of the original 500-acre plantation and, upon her death, it was to go to their son THOMAS.[24] JOHN appointed two overseers for his estate, those being SAMUEL JENNINGS, and FRANCIS DAVENPORT. Witnesses to his signing were MARTHA SPICER, MARTYN SPICER, and JOHN KAY. The Will was supplemented by a Codicil dated 24 August 1701 in which he disposed of 100 acres *at Egg Harbor*. This may be the property at Great Egg Harbor in Gloucester County that his son JAMES, along with JUDAH ALLEN, maybe his brother-in-law, sold to JAMES STEELMAN on 4 December 1708. The inventory of John's estate was signed by William Hackney and John Kay on 28 February 1704; including two *men slaves*, they valued it at £316.4.2. On 8 March 1704 ELIZABETH signed a bond as administratrix of the estate with WILLIAM HACKNEY and WILLIAM HOLLINSHEAD either cosigning the bond or acting as sureties.[25]

Rather than waiting to receive his inheritance, ELIZABETH deeded the land, the plantation in Chester Township and meadow land in Evesham Township, to THOMAS on 7 March 1712.

ISSUE BY JANE:

3. MARTHA ADAMS: may have married BENJAMIN PEARSE/PIERCE in Scituate, Plymouth Colony on 5 February 1678 (unknown if *o.s.* or *n.s.*; see NEHGR 33:412*n*)
4. REBECCA ADAMS: married HENRY CLIFFORD of Flushing on 29 May 1686.

ISSUE BY ELIZABETH:

1) JOHN ADAMS: died 4 October 1665 at Flushing; he was 14 months old.
2) ELIZABETH ADAMS: married WILLIAM HOLLINSHEAD on 23 March 1692.
3) SARAH ADAMS: married JOHN COWPERTHWAITE, son of HUGH COWPERTHWAITE.
4) **JAMES ADAMS**: received half of father's property, 250 acres, in Chester Township, Burlington County on 27 January 1694. He married **ESTHER ALLEN** on 2 September 1695 at Shrewsbury Meeting in Shrewsbury, Monmouth County. Continued in their separate file.
5) SUSANNA ADAMS: married EDWARD BUZBY of Dubin, Pennsylvania in 1696.
6) HANNAH ADAMS:
7) DEBORAH ADAMS: married JUDAH ALLEN in 1701.
8) JOHN ADAMS: died 30 December 1688 at 8 years old.

9) ABIGAIL ADAMS: married HENRY ALLEN in 1714. She died 12 August 1759.

10) THOMAS ADAMS: received the 238-acre plantation in Chester Township and the 12 acres of meadow in Evesham Township from his mother by deed in 1712 as mentioned above. On 20 or 21 September 1719 he sold the 250 acres, his house on the 238 acres in Chester Township and 12 acres of meadow in Evesham, to SAMUEL ATKINSON for £310.9.2. On 21 February 1729, THOMAS ADAMS *of Philadelphia* deeded to his nephew THOMAS ADAMS, a plantation in Chester Township, according to the recital in a deed dated 30 December 1734 given by the nephew, which refers to the uncle as deceased.

11) MERCY ADAMS:

12) PHEBE ADAMS: married ABRAHAM BROWN JUNIOR in 1712. (Burlington Friends' Records).

Notes

The JOHN and ELIZABETH ADAMS who arrived in Fenwicke's Colony with the Proprietor himself on the *Shield* in 1675 are easy to conflate with this couple. That they were not related in some manner has never been satisfactorily proven yet nothing definitively points to that either.

ELIZABETH ADAMS: On 13 May 1680 ELIZABETH ADAMS, granddaughter of JOHN FENWICK, received 200 acres at Grove's Point in East Fenwick Township from JERVIS and JOAN BYWATER.[26] She made a life choice that so alienated her grandfather that his Will, signed on 6 August 1683 includes the admonition: *I doe Except against ELIZABETH ADAMS of having any the least p^{te} of my Estate & her heirs forever, Except the Lord open her eyes to See her abominable Transgression against Him, me & her poore father by giving her true repentance & fersakeing y^{t} Black y^{t} hath been the ruine of her and becoming penitent for her sins, etc.* Her *poor father* JOHN ADAMS and the rest of his children, *viz*. FENWICK, WALTER, MARY, and ANN receive bequests.[27]

John Henry of Bedminster Township, Somerset County signed his Will on 26 July 1750. In it he names his wife Anne and a stepdaughter from Anne's first marriage. His daughters were Sarah Henry Adams and Margaret Henry while his stepdaughter was Mary Venobles, the last two being unmarried. The inventory includes a debt due from James Adams. (NJA 30, 2:231) Anne's first husband was a Venobles.

Fenwick Adams of Salem County seems to be related somehow.

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[1] "Marriages from the early records of Marshfield, Mass.," New England Historical and Genealogical Record, 6:347 (Boston: New England Historic Genealogical Association; 1852). Available at Archive.org. George Ernest Bowman, "The Vital Records of Marshfield, Mass.," *The Mayflower Descendant*, 2, 1: 4 (Boston, 1900). Digital version available at https://HathiTrust.org.

[2] D. Hamilton Hurd. History of Plymouth County, Massachusetts. (Philadelphia: J.W. Lewis & Company; 1884) pp. 1140 - 1141. Available at Archive.org.

[3] "Appendix 1: Plymouth Colony Laws," The Plymouth Colony Archive Project; http://www.histarch.illinois.edu/plymouth/Galleapp.html; last accessed 25 February 2019. Nathanial B. Shurtleff (*ed*).Records of the Colony of New Plymouth in New England. Court Orders, Volume 3, 1651 – 1661 (New York: AMS Press, 1968,; reprint of Boston: William White; 1855) pp. 71 – 73, 82, 143. Digital version at Archive.org.

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